

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01430

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, UN

SUBJECT: ORGANIZING FOR MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY

REFS: (A) STATE 13264; (B) USUN 134

1. WE PASSED TALKING POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL A TO GORENFLOS OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE UN DIVISION JANUARY 27. GORENFLOS APPRECIATED THE INFORMATION. HE QUESTIONED EMBASSY OFFICER CLOSELY ON THE FUNCTIONS OF THE NEW OFFICE OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS. IT BECAME EVIDENT FROM HIS QUESTIONS AND REMARKS THAT GORENFLOS IS NOT SATISFIED WITH THE QUALITY OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE FRG (AND THE EC), PRINCIPALLY THOSE WHICH TAKE PLACE IN NEW YORK.

2. GORENFLOS SAID THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE IS CURRENTLY STUDYING THE QUESTION OF HOW CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE INDUSTRIALIZED WESTERN NATIONS IN NEW YORK CAN BE IMPROVED. HE BELIEVES THAT WHAT IS NEEDED IS A GROUPING OF NATIONS WHICH LARGELY PARALLELS THE VINCI GROUP. SUCH A GROUP SHOULD INCLUDE THE NATO NATIONS, SWEDEN, JAPAN, AUSTRIA, SPAIN AND IRELAND. HE SAID THE VINCI
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GROUP IS NOT BAD, BUT IT DOES NOT WORK AND HAS TOO MANY

MEMBERS. HE REJECTED THE IDEA OF A NATO CAUCUS AS TOO NARROWLY BASED AND INAPPROPRIATE. WHAT HE BELIEVES IS NEEDED IS NOT ANOTHER INSTITUTION, BUT RATHER A LABEL WHICH THE ABOVE LISTED COUNTRIES CAN USE TO ASSEMBLE FOR CONSULTATIONS. HE BELIEVES THAT MEMBERSHIP IN SUCH A GROUP SHOULD BE OPENENDED SO THAT OTHER NATIONS CAN BE INCLUDED IN IT ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.

3. WE TOLD GORENFLOS THAT WE WOULD REPORT HIS THOUGHTS AND ASK THE DEPARTMENT TO KEEP US INFORMED AS THE ROLE OF THE OFFICE OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS IS SPELLED OUT IN PRACTICE.

4. ON THE GENERAL QUESTION OF MAKING THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES AWARE OF THE EFFECT THEIR VOTES IN THE UN CAN HAVE ON BILATERAL RELATIONS, GORENFLOS SAID THAT ONE WAY THE FRG TRIES TO DO THIS IS TO REQUEST FROM THE FRG UN MISSION A SUMMARY OF THE THIRD WORLD NATION'S VOTING PATTERN AND ATTITUDES ON PENDING UN QUESTIONS EACH TIME A HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH AN OFFICIAL FROM A THIRD WORLD NATION. THE FRG OFFICIAL THEN DRAWS ON THIS SUMMARY TO REMIND THE THIRD WORLD NATION THAT ITS ACTIONS IN THE UN CAN AFFECT BILATERAL RELATIONS.
HILLENBRAND

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